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Viva El Norte! WSU Ballet
Folklorico Celebrates
Northern Mexico

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HISPANIC NEWS

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Tigers In
First Place !!!

Detroit despidió al papa Francisco con una Misa solemne presidida por el Arzobispo Weisenburger

Por Daniel Meloy | Reimpreso de *Detroit Catholic*

El Arzobispo Edward J. Weisenburger presidió la Misa en memoria del Papa Francisco el 21 de abril en la Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

El arzobispo agradeció a los cientos de fieles que llegaron desde todos los rincones de la Arquidiócesis de Detroit hasta la catedral para conmemorar la vida y la muerte del Papa Francisco. El Vaticano anunció su fallecimiento a la edad de 88 años el lunes por la mañana.

“Aunque una parte de mí está llena de tristeza hoy, otra parte también está llena de alegría por aquel a quien amé”, expresó el Arzobispo Weisenburger a los presentes.

Continúa en la pág. 8

Archbishop Weisenburger Leads Detroit Faithful in Mourning Pope Francis' Death

By Daniel Meloy | Reprinted from *Detroit Catholic*

Archbishop Edward J. Weisenburger led the local Church in mourning Pope Francis' death April 21 during a memorial Mass at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The archbishop thanked the hundreds of faithful who descended from every corner of the Archdiocese of Detroit to the cathedral to commemorate the life and death of Pope Francis, whom the Vatican announced passed away at the age of 88 on Monday morning.

“While a part of me is filled with sadness today, part of me is also filled with joy for one for whom I loved,” Archbishop Weisenburger told

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El Arzobispo Edward J. Weisenburger dirige las oraciones durante una Misa en memoria del papa Francisco el 21 de abril en la Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament en Detroit. El papa Francisco, quien ha liderado la Iglesia católica desde 2013, murió la madrugada del lunes, el día después del Domingo de Pascua. (Foto de Valaurian Waller | *Detroit Catholic*)

Grand opening of Campbell Street Apartments \$18M affordable housing development in East Chadsey-Condon neighborhood

Community developer MiSide Community Impact Network joined state and local leaders to celebrate the grand opening of the Campbell Street Apartments, a brand-new affordable housing development located on 5800 Michigan Avenue. The development provides the East Chadsey-Condon neighborhood with 40 units of deeply affordable housing in its first phase of construction.

The new mixed-use development will offer a range of 1 to 3-bedroom units. All apartments are reserved for households not earning more than 30% of the area median income. However, thanks to project-based housing vouchers from MSHDA, no resident will have to pay more than 30% of their income on rent.

A second project with 32 units called Wesson Apartments will complement the redevelopment of the entire 5800 Michigan Avenue block. Wesson Avenue Apartments will be a four-story mixed-use building consisting of 45,000 square feet and is expected to open in about 19

months.

“The expansion of affordable housing is incredible. We continue to gain safe, affordable housing to retain our Detroiters and bring new ones in.” Melia Howard, Deputy Mayor for the City of Detroit said. “I’m so grateful to be a part of the housing solution in our city and to see it flourish.”

Campbell Street Apartments will offer lower-income households the opportunity to take advantage of the significant employment and community benefits stemming from continued investment in Corktown and its surrounding neighborhoods. The project is in the East Chadsey-Condon neighborhood, which is home to a one-acre community park, boasts three successful schools just blocks away, easy access to public transportation, stellar neighborhood grocery stores, and many other walkable amenities.

Additionally, the building next door to the development is also owned and operated by MiSide and houses a variety of community service



The Campbell St. Apartments offer 40 units of affordable housing to the Southwest Detroit neighborhoods of E Chadsey-Condon

non-profits including MiSide administrative offices and MiSide Health's Children, Youth, and Family Services, Life Directions, Mom's and Babes WIC office and Covenant Community Care Federally Qualified Health Clinic.

“We are grateful for the support that the city of Detroit, the state of Michigan and all of our partners have provided to help us develop a housing project that embodies our mission and values here at MiSide,” said Sean de Four,

president and CEO of MiSide Community Impact Network. “Together, we are bringing new life to an area that has been vacant for more than three decades by providing affordable housing with modern amenities to low-income residents in an area that is close to major employers as well as restaurants and shopping.”

Each unit is furnished and will come with amenities such double-bowl sinks, and hardwood floors. The building also features a community

center, complete with a kitchen and entertainment area, as well as laundry facilities. 50 on-site, gated parking spaces are for residents, and access to additional gated off-site parking.

The project's affordability is thanks in large part to Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and more than \$14.6M in additional mortgage, gap, and construction loan financing from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

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More Than Secondhand: Detroit’s Fashion Revolution Week Embraces Circularity, Community, and Cultural Roots

By Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

From Brazil to South Africa, South Korea to Zimbabwe – the revolution is coming, and it is thrifty. Detroit will join dozens of cities across the globe to take part in Fashion Revolution Week – six days of sustainability workshops, panels, and seminars aimed at questioning the cycle of overproduction that exists in the fashion realm.

The week’s kick-off is a mixer at Playground Detroit Gallery at 2845 Gratiot Avenue near Detroit’s Eastern Market. Throughout the week there will be mending workshops, film screenings, an indie pop-up shop, clothes swaps, and more.

“Sustainable fashion doesn’t have to be expensive,” said Samantha Cerwin, who moved to Detroit from Mexico three years ago and now runs BeReworn, which helps people connect through sustainable fashion events. “From the cultural perspective, when we grow up, our mom will pass all our clothing to the next cousin... People don’t see that as part of the circular economy movement, but it is.”

Cerwin is one of four women – alongside Sarah Mark, Paulina Petkoski, and Nadia Boone – leading the Detroit chapter of Fashion Revolution Week. These women have different backgrounds in sustainability, but what they all agree on is that sustainability isn’t a luxury. It is a mindful act of resistance against a system that values money and the bottom line, over people and the planet.

Fashion Revolution Week emerged in 2014, a poignant commemoration of the first anniversary of the horrific Rana Plaza commercial building collapse in Bangladesh, a tragedy that claimed the lives of over 1,100 garment workers. The Rana Plaza collapse has since resulted in worker activism for safer conditions.

Born out of Oxford Street, London, the beginnings of the

Fashion Revolution was a simple call to action: “that no one dies for fashion.” What started as a day of remembrance spread through Europe. By 2016, Fashion Revolution became a weeklong campaign.

Today, Fashion Revolution Week has chapters across Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America.

Nadia Boone, a Detroit native, joined the Detroit team after a brainstorming session. Her approach to fashion is laid back and encouraging.

“People living in low-income areas are already being sustainable without even realizing it,” Boone said. She is the creator of Biospoke, a clothing brand that specializes in natural and recycled materials.

In Detroit, about one in three residents live in poverty. Wearing second-hand clothing is less about trendiness and sustainability and more about the act of survival. But that could be why Detroit is the perfect place for Fashion Revolution Week.

This resourcefulness echoes the idea of the Chicano rasquachismo, which is rooted in the ingenuity of making do with what is at hand and making things last beyond their conventional use. Scarcity becomes a source for innovation. For example, reusing old t-shirts as rags. Instead of sustainability being a radical concept, rasquachismo reimagines the ideas of reuse and recycle as expressions of resilience and ingenuity.

Sarah Mark, textile artist and fashion educator, agrees that scarcity can be a harbinger of innovation. She hopes less production will mean a greater willingness to be innovative with the textiles that are already in circulation.

As Fashion Revolution Week unfolds in Detroit, it weaves the city into a global movement. The goal is active participation, not perfection.

FASHION
REVOLUTION
WEEK

DETROIT FASHION
REVOLUTION WEEK

4/22	4/23	4/24
FRW KICK OFF EVENT: GROUP ART EXHIBITION, MIXER #WEAREFASHIONREVOLUTION	PANEL DISCUSSION: BUILDING REGENERATIVE SYSTEMS THROUGH COLLECTIVE ACTION	GESTURES OF REMEMBRANCE: QUILT WORKSHOP, INSTALLATION, DANCE/MUSIC PERFORMANCE
4/25	4/26	4/27
FACTORY TOURS: PINGREE DETROIT, D/ARTILLERY, SMLFD, SOFT GOODS PINGREE DETROIT: TOUR, LIVE SNEAKER MAKING DEMO, LEATHER SCRAPS GIVEAWAY MAKE YOUR OWN CLOTHES 101 WORKSHOP WSU STUDENT EXHIBITION FILM SCREENING: FASHION REIMAGINED BORO VINTAGE: BORROW FASHION EXHIBITION	ZERO WASTE PATTERNMAKING WORKSHOP FMOD, BASBLUE: CLOTHING SWAP, UPCYCLING, MENDING WORKSHOPS, AMBIENT MENDING THE REVAMP CLOTHING SWAP FASHION AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS EUGENIES EARTH DAY CELEBRATION EASTERN MARKET ACTIVATES FOR MENDING IN PUBLIC DAY INDIE DESIGNER POP UP SHOP #FASHIONREVOLUTIONWEEK	REJEANERATE DENIM UPCYCLING WORKSHOP CLEARLINE MAGAZINE: CIRCULAR FASHION ZINE WORKSHOP TEXTILE INNOVATION AND FUTURES INDIE DESIGNER POP UP SHOP #FASHIONREVOLUTIONWEEK

4/22 EARTH DAY
4/25 RANA PLAZA ANNIVERSARY DAY
4/26-4/27 MENDING IN PUBLIC DAY

“It’s this collective effort... like keep going,” said Cerwin. To learn more about the Detroit Fashion Revolution Week and find details on specific events, you can visit www.bereworn.com/events/ or follow the Detroit Fashion United community on Instagram: @detroitfashionunited.

Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a Latina freelance writer living in metro Detroit. She is a regular contributor to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News and a member of Planet Detroit’s Neighborhood Reporting Lab.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News is partially funded by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news

Photos and captions by: Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval



(Right) A detail of a quilt piece featuring stitched hearts, part of the Commemorative Quilt Project, photographed at the Neighborhood Art School in Detroit, Michigan, on April 19, 2025. The project precedes Detroit Fashion Revolution Week and honors garment workers lost in the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster

(Both photos on the left) Tina Tse during the Commemorative Quilt Project at Neighborhood Art School in Detroit, Michigan, on April 19, 2025. Held ahead of Detroit Fashion Revolution Week, the event honors garment workers lost in the 2013 Rana Plaza collapse in Bangladesh



Viva El Norte! WSU Ballet Folklórico Celebrates Northern Mexico

By Andrea Meza

Students and alumni of Wayne State University preserve tradition and embrace regional diversity through ballet folklórico.

Wayne State University’s Ballet Folklórico hosts their 2nd annual end-of-year showcase titled ‘Viva El Norte!’ with special guests Ballet Folclórico Xochihua from Columbus, Ohio. It will be held in the Community Arts Auditorium at WSU on Sunday, April 27 starting at 2 p.m.

The theme highlights Northern Mexican culture and dance from Baja California, Durango, Coahuila, and Nuevo Leon. It will also highlight how the Mexican Revolution influenced the northern region.

Veronica Beltran, director of WSU Ballet Folklórico and assistant director of Student Engagement and Culture for LatinX Faculty and Staff Association said the theme “came about naturally.” She planned to implement workshops around the northern states prior to the showcase. She also invited Maestra Victoria Paola Barriga Cobos who instructed them the year prior. This year Beltran wanted a workshop on repertoires around revolution which Cobos has worked on before.

“I think the opportunity arises to provide some type of social awareness like, “Let’s talk about El Otro Norte.” So we will have a part of the showcase where we’re actually going to be honoring our immigrant parents, and our immigrant families,” Beltran said.

El Otro Norte or El Norte, refers to the United States, most often by Mexican people living in Mexico. The group will be doing a rendition and

representative dance of the relationship between Mexico and El Norte to the song by Antonio Aguilar titled “Paso Del Norte”.

“That’s a song that my paternal grandfather enjoyed a lot, and it talks about that journey. And he’s thinking about su chata and thinking about his family,” Beltran emotionally said.

She expressed the great privilege it is to honor her family. “I feel that it is so dire and important during these contentious social times that it’s an opportunity for us to uplift ourselves through the performing arts,” Beltran said.

Beltran said currently we are seeing people be censored or put down for expressing their cultural identities, but throughout history we have also seen people use art to express themselves.

“I feel it is a form of resistance.. We, Mexicans, can be here in the United States, we do not need to change our culture, how we are, or how we talk,” Brenda Jacqueline Garcia said. Garcia is a Southwest Detroit native, that has danced folklórico for 12 years, and is currently studying medical laboratory science at WSU.

WSU Ballet Folklórico is the first of its kind at the school and is coming up on its two year anniversary since its conception. Beltran has some folklórico experience and had first discussed the idea of creating this group back in 2022. At the time, she was not certain there was much interest from students. After she waited a year, and encountered multiple students asking for it to be started, the group was born.

According to Beltran, the group is purely interest based. If a person is interested in learning how to dance and about Mexican

culture and the diversity within the country, they can join the workshops. They have no strict schedule, no auditions needed, and no experience needed. Performances are not required and are left up to the dancers to decide to be a part of them.

“When I got here, I felt I needed to join something to feel more connected to my culture,” Kevlyn Aguirre, president of WSU Ballet Folklórico said. Aguirre is originally from Newport Beach, California and grew up in a mostly-Mexican part of town, and now currently studies biology and neuroscience at WSU. WSU Ballet Folklórico has filled that cultural void for him.

Beltran said when she first created the group she wanted a focus on education around Mexico’s regional diversity because more often than not the folklórico dance groups are Jalisco based..

The first year showcase was about the coastal Mexican region. Which also happened naturally after Beltran realized the majority of the workshops that year were from states in that region.

“It’s a pride I carry inside that brings me great happiness to represent my state, even though I’m far from it, “Itzel Ventura Perez said. Perez was raised in Tijuana, Baja California and moved to the U.S. when she was 10 years old. She is currently studying physical education and health at WSU.

Beltran wishes that people come to the showcase to see all the hard work the students have put into the show. She said the students and herself take the performances very seriously as they are trying to highlight the beauty of their own culture. The



group seeks to bring honor to the history and tradition of their people.

“Sometimes people don’t realize how much history is in the dance. It’s not just costumes and steps. There’s a story behind everything,” Christopher Santiago Garcia said. Santiago Garcia was raised in Detroit and currently studies finance and engineering in business law at WSU.

Andrea Meza graduated from Wayne State University with a journalism degree and was the first student to major in Latin American Studies at the school. She has strong ties to Southwest Detroit with a passion to connect to the community through her writing. In her free time, she loves to learn about history and be in nature.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News is partially funded by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

Photos and captions by: Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval



Verónica Beltrán, founder and maestra of Ballet Folklórico of Wayne State University, leads a rehearsal at the Student Center in Detroit, Michigan, on April 16, 2025. The group is preparing for their “¡Viva el Norte!” presentation, which will showcase regional dances from northern Mexico



Members of Ballet Folklórico of Wayne State University rehearse calabaceados, a high-energy dance style originating from Baja California, at the Student Center in Detroit, Michigan, on April 16, 2025. The group is preparing for their “¡Viva el Norte!” presentation, which will feature traditional dances from northern Mexico



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Grand opening of Campbell Street Apartments

Con't from pg. 1

“At MSHDA, we know that housing is foundational to thriving communities and individual opportunity,” said MSHDA CEO and Executive Director Amy Hovey. “The Campbell Street Apartments bring deeply affordable homes to a neighborhood rich with potential, connecting residents to jobs, schools, transit, and other vital amenities. We’re proud to support this project through significant financing and long-term rental assistance.”

The project was awarded a \$1 million grant from Michigan’s Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) to clean up contaminated soil on the property prior to development. An additional \$1 million in grant funding has recently been provided for the second phase of development.

“Cleaning up a vacant and contaminated property and helping to bring it back into productive use is the purpose of EGLE’s brownfield program,” said Carrie Geyer, Brownfield Assessment Manager for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and

Energy. “Being able to do that for such a meaningful project has been incredibly rewarding.”

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority also provided \$510,000 in funding for soil remediation as well.

The Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department’s Detroit Home Connect offers a central website for residents to explore affordable housing options across the city. Families can see developments that are under construction, search for properties by city regions, and learn how to apply for affordable housing. Those resources can be found at homeconnect.detroitmi.gov.

About MiSide Community Impact Network

MiSide Community Impact Network, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, ensures that children, individuals, families and entire communities have access to great healthcare, quality education, a comfortable home and the money they need to build a life they desire. MiSide was formed in 2023 after the merging of two Detroit-based



MiSide leaders were joined by city, state and community leaders for the ribbon cutting ceremony on April 17

nonprofits – Southwest Solutions and Development Centers Inc. – to provide a higher, more personal level of care that addresses every side of life and is unique to the needs of each community it serves.

Multiple programs are maintained by MiSide, including integrated behavioral and physical health services, employment and education services, affordable housing, veteran and homeless services, and

early childhood education and family services. Annually, nearly 25,000 clients in Detroit and Wayne County are served by MiSide. For more information, please visit MiSide.org.

MDOT Reveals Final Designs for Michigan Ave. from Downtown to Corktown

By Santiago Esparza

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has an updated plan to upgrade two miles of Michigan Avenue in Corktown after a previous version was met with opposition.

Last Wednesday, April 16, MDOT officials updated the public about the plan that includes limiting the thoroughfare between Interstate 96 and Woodward to allow for two lanes of traffic in each direction, and to offer safer pedestrian crossings, limiting left turns and reducing traffic speeds.

The previous version of the plan eliminated parking spots, limited traffic on Michigan Avenue in the project area to one lane in each direction, greatly extended sidewalks and severely limited left hand turns.

The project will cost between \$70 and \$80 million depending on the final design and the bidding process for contractors to complete the project, MDOT spokesman Rob Morosi said.

“The community really wants a

main street and not an alternative route to get to a freeway,” Morosi said. “It can’t be about infrastructure improvements. It has to be about how the community can use those improvements.”

MDOT has a \$25 million federal grant under review and is awaiting final word the money has been approved. The grant is a third of the project’s funding, but Morosi said MDOT will find funding for the project, even if the grant is not awarded.

Sheila Cockrel, a board member of the Corktown Business Association, said she appreciates that community input was incorporated, but more is needed.

The Corktown Business Association will meet with MDOT next week to discuss the project and address concerns about parking, that the project limits left turns and how that will affect neighborhoods and ways to ensure that it is not so difficult to get around that visitors to

sporting events opt to skip hanging out in Corktown before or after games, said Cockrel, who is a Corktown native and a former Detroit City Council member

“Reducing lanes will affect who even comes to Corktown, Cockrel said. “What really needs to happen is they need parking structures at both ends (of the project).”

Concerns about parking issues due to the project have the association and residents looking at implementing parking permits for residents, Cockrel said. The project initially was going to eliminate 43 much-needed parking spots but now calls for adding seven, Cockrel said.

“It is not done in the eyes of the community,” she said of the project. “There needs to be a different approach,” Cockrel said of limits on left turns, adding parking and ease of visitors to get to and from Corktown.

Designs for the project call for saving the signature brick

paving from area streets for incorporating into its look. The association and residents insisted the bricks be saved.

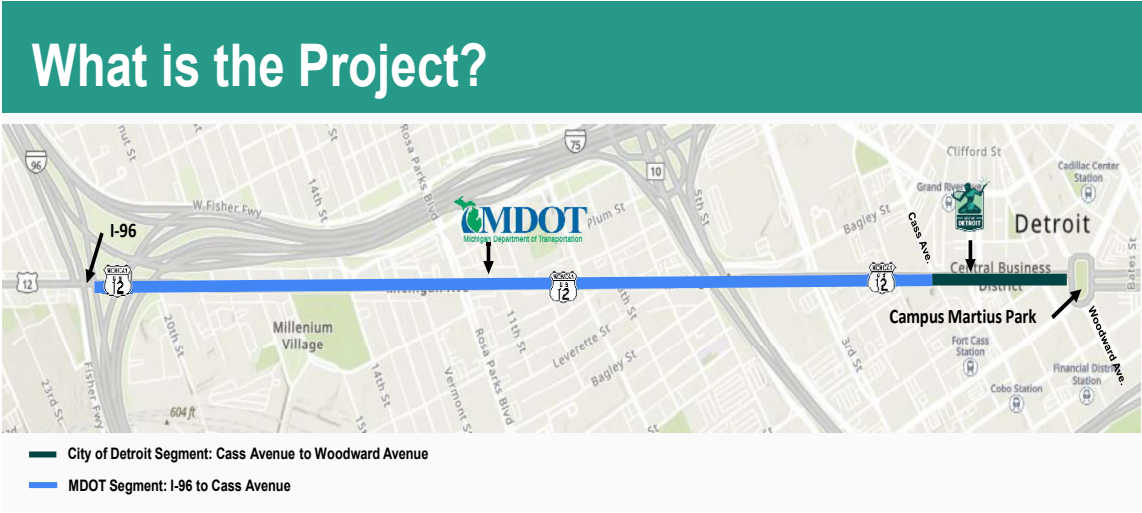
The streets needed replacement, MDOT said, because they were not meant for heavy trucks, buses or the amount of traffic on them. They want to get ahead of any possible issues due to their age or condition.

A copy of the community presentation on April 16, 2025, can be found at <https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/projects-studies/us-12-detroit-mobility-corridor>. In addition, MDOT and the City of Detroit continue to accept comments about the plan design from residents and

businesses in the focus area. Email your comments to either Augusta Gudeman (Detroit DPW) at augusta.gudeman@detroitmi.gov or Andrea Wilcox (MDOT) at WilcoxA2@Michigan.gov

Santiago Esparza is a Detroit-based freelance writer. He is a native of Southwest Detroit

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Correction



In last week’s issue, the article about Yaidimar Narvaez (L) featured a photo of her and her art teacher Kathleen Dickinson (R) from Western International High School. The photo misidentified the two individuals. They are identified correctly in the above photo. We regret the error

Detroit’s truck route ordinance: Will it finally bring relief to Southwest?

By Isabelle Tavares

By summer, Detroit plans to enact the truck route ordinance for which Southwest Detroit residents have petitioned since 1938. The ordinance aims to reduce truck traffic and associated pollution in residential areas by establishing designated routes.

Southwest Detroit residents have endured generations of pollution, noise, and dust from truck traffic serving dozens of intermodal facilities and heavy industry in and around residential areas.

The Ambassador Bridge is crossed by around 10,000 trucks a day, adding to diesel exhaust pollution, which contains particulate matter associated with heart and lung problems and pollutants like nitrogen oxides, which are significant drivers of pollution-related deaths.

Augusta Gudeman, freight infrastructure specialist with the City of Detroit, outlined plans for the rollout, education, and enforcement tied to the ordinance at a March 12 Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision meeting with residents.

“I can’t promise that we’re going to 100% get it passed at that time, but that is what we’re aiming for,” Gudeman said of the city’s summer timeline.

What the truck ordinance means for Southwest Detroit

The proposed truck routes prioritize major arteries like Michigan Avenue, keeping trucks away from dense residential areas like Clark Street, Scotten Street, and Toledo Street.

Once the ordinance is signed into law, new signage will clearly mark the routes trucks can or cannot travel, Gudeman said, and police will issue citations and fines to trucks and companies breaking the law.

The community will need to alert the city of any issues with signage or to report a truck traveling on a restricted road, she said. The exact reporting method

is still being developed.

“We don’t have a streamlined way of taking in information and feedback specifically related to trucks,” Gudeman said. “We’re going to create something that’s a little clearer for folks to use, so we’ve got better data to understand the issues that are emerging.”

Throughout 2025 and beyond, the city will continue to educate residents, businesses, and truck drivers, Gudeman said. The city asked residents to weigh in on truck route ordinance language, new street and signage designs, new intersection designs, and enhanced street sweeping operations, she said.

Robert Andersen, 20-year Hubbard Farms resident, said in an area where “you can see [pollution] residue on patio furniture,” directing traffic from intermodal facilities onto the highway, instead of residential areas, is the “real issue.”

Andersen moved to Southwest just as the exchange for the Ambassador Bridge was rerouted from residential areas to the freeway.

“That helped out quite a bit,” Andersen said. “It’s pretty remarkable. Over the last 20 years, the quality of life has gotten better.”

Andersen said the neighborhood is “vigilant” and when something doesn’t seem right, residents question it immediately.

“Our corporate neighbors are always looking for an opportunity to push things a little further that might put the neighborhood at risk, but we do push back,” he said.

The Ambassador Bridge, built in 1929, carries about 25% of the vehicular traffic between the U.S. and Canada, according to an environmental assessment by its owner, the Detroit International Bridge Company.

How Southwest Detroit truck traffic could be rerouted

Southwest Detroit is home to more than a dozen major generators of freight activity, such as the Ambassador Bridge, the Detroit Produce Terminal, and Oasis Trucking, last year’s city truck route study states. Many large freight generators are near interstates, but some are located in or near residential areas.

Among the top freight generators is the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal (DIFT), a key trade hub for local and international travel housing operations for rail, shipping containers, and trucking. The facility clocks nearly 2,000 trucks a day at one of its entrances on Federal Street, according to daily averages counted by a camera between October and December 2022 in the city’s study.

Local traffic from trucks traveling to and from industrial and logistics facilities along the Norfolk Southern railroad line, which runs east-west between the Michigan Martin and Springwells neighborhoods in Southwest, may have a harder time with their current route under the proposed ordinance.

The ordinance identifies “issue routes” in Southwest Detroit. These are streets with known or expected truck traffic in sensitive areas, like homes, schools, parks, and community centers.

In order to defray truck travel on the issue routes, the following road segments would likely experience increased truck volumes once the ordinance is in effect, according to the city:

- Michigan Avenue: Livernois Avenue to southbound I-75 Service Drive.
- Livernois Avenue: I-94 to Vernor Highway.
- I-75/Fisher Service Drive: Michigan Avenue to West Grand Boulevard.
- Vernor Highway: Waterman Street to Livernois Avenue.

- John Kronk Street/Southern Avenue: Wyoming Avenue to Livernois Avenue.
- West Grand Boulevard: Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to Michigan Avenue.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard: I-96 Service Drive to West Grand Boulevard.

Michael Belzer, professor of economics at Wayne State University, said the expected smooth flow of traffic depends on broader economic conditions. With an economic downturn and trade tensions at hand, truck traffic might decrease overall, Belzer said.

“What you notice when you have recessions, is that there’s no traffic jams anymore,” Belzer said. “[Tariffs] would cut the number of trucks going across the bridge, because there’s nothing to haul.”

The Gordie Howe bridge and Southwest Detroit traffic

The Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority says the Gordie Howe Bridge is on track to open to traffic this fall. The Canadian government funded the new international border crossing, which is located in Delray on the U.S. side of the Detroit River. It will compete for truck traffic with the privately owned Ambassador Bridge, which links I-75 and I-96 in the U.S. with Highway 3 in Ontario.

An estimated 8,000 commercial vehicles will utilize the new bridge on an average weekday once the bridge opens this year, mainly by redistributing trips from the Ambassador Bridge, according to a 2018 report for the Michigan Department of Transportation.

By 2040, average weekday volumes are projected to grow to 10,766 commercial vehicles.

A 2021 University of Windsor study found the Gordie Howe bridge would save truckers 850,000 hours of wait time, and

trucking companies billions of dollars, over the bridge’s lifespan.

Changes in activity in the new bridge area can already be observed today, according to a July 2024 Southwest Detroit truck route study commissioned by the city.

Existing and new industrial users are expanding or building facilities in Delray and Southwest to take advantage of the new bridge, according to the study.

“Along with planned trips originating from local access points on the new service plaza, these new and expanded uses are anticipated to create new truck trips south of I-75 at minimum,” the report said.

The Gordie Howe bridge will be accessed from the freeway, not by local traffic, said Georgette Johnson, press secretary for the city.

Based on a map of proposed routes in the city’s ordinance, trucks coming from the intermodal facility to the new bridge would travel just under 5 miles along Livernois Avenue north to Michigan Avenue; onto the east I-96 service drive; to the I-75 service drive.

Once finished, the bridge will be the longest cable-stayed bridge in North America, stretching 1.5 miles across the Detroit River, according to the Federal Highway Administration. The cable-stayed bridge features six lanes, three in each direction, and incorporates lanes for cyclists and pedestrians.

Isabelle Tavares is a Community Reporter with Report for America. She covers environmental and public health impacts in Southwest Detroit for Planet Detroit with Report for America. Working in text, film and audio, she is a Dominican-American storyteller who is concerned with identity, generational time, and ecology.

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Varios Sitios

Mexicantown Mercado: 2826 Bagley St, Detroit, MI 48216

Parque Roosevelt: 2405 Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48216

Actividades gratuitas para celebrar el Día del Niño Pequeño y el Día de la Tierra

26 de Abril de 2025

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Evento abierto al público



New truck route ordinance gets set to take place this summer, reducing the trucks on side streets in Detroit, with designated routes to and from the Ambassador and the new Gordie Howe International Bridges. Photo by Rosa Maria Zamarron, Planet Detroit

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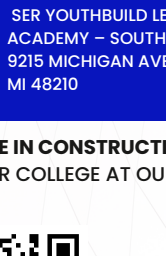
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Mexican Consulate Comes to Lincoln Park

The Mexican Consulate will be available for processing passports, documentation and other official forms the week of April 28 through May 2. They are hosted by St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 1325 Champaign Rd., Lincoln Park. The church is conveniently located just off Fort Street across from the CVS.

St. Michael's has opened their doors to the Consulate several times in the past and is pleased to be able to offer these services again. Their hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The consulate requires that you must have an appointment, no walk-ins are taken. You can get an appointment by using Whatsapp and dialing 424-309-0009.



Living Arts Dance-A-Thon| Support Youth Arts Programs in Southwest Detroit!

Detroit, MI — Friday, April 25th and Saturday, April 26th, Living Arts is thrilled to announce that we are celebrating 25 years in our community and will be hosting a Dance-A-Thon, an electrifying community event designed to get Detroit moving while raising funds for arts education in our local schools and neighborhoods. The event will take place on April 25th and 26th at 4851 Michigan

Ave, and we will be dancing
for 25 hours.

We invite dancers of all levels to embrace movement for a cause. There is a time slot and class available to anyone of all ages.

Highlights Include:

- Cabresto Tequila Tasting on Friday
- Live DJ Alum/ Teaching Artist Camilla Cantu
- Dance lessons: Cha-Cha, Salsa, Bachata, Detroit Hustle, Detroit Jit. and

Alum's teacher returning
to teach many more classes

- Family-friendly activities
interactive movement
classes
- Silent auction from local
businesses

Funds raised from the Dance-A-Thon will support Living Arts' mission to ignite creativity in the lives of Detroit youth through dance, visual arts, and theater programming in schools and beyond.

“This is more than a fundraiser,” says (Bianca Cuevas, Associate Director of Community Engagement/Community Leader). “It’s a celebration of movement, resilience, and our shared commitment to youth creativity in Southwest Detroit.”

How You Can Help:

- Buy a Ticket!
- Donate online or during the event
- Spread the word by

sharing on social
media with hashtag
#DanceForDetroit

- Volunteer to help us make the event unforgettable

Join us for a day of
rhythm, connection, and
impact!

For more information, to register, or to donate, visit:
<https://secure.qgiv.com/event/danceathon/>

LIVING ARTS DANCEATHON!

25 HORAS BAILANDO Y CELEBRANDO 25 AÑOS DE
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25 Y 26 DE ABRIL
7PM VIERNES -
8 P. M. DEL SÁBADO

BOLETO TODO INCLUIDO POR
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INCLUYE DERECHOS DE ENTRADA Y
SALIDA
BOLETOS DE \$25 PARA VER VIVO EN LÍNEA
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FIESTA DE BAILE
SUBASTA SILENCIOSA
CLASES DE MOVIMIENTO
EVENTO EN LÍNEA DE 25 HORAS
RETO DE RECAUDACIÓN DE FONDOS

MÁS DETALLES EN LIVINGARTSDetroit.org



LIVING ARTS DANCEATHON!

25 HOURS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF LIVING ARTS

**SILENT AUCTION
GRANDPRIZE
ALL INCLUSIVE
TRIP FOR 2!**

APRIL 25 - 26
7PM FRIDAY -
8PM SATURDAY

\$50 ALL INCLUSIVE TICKET
INCLUDES IN AND OUT PRIVILEGES

\$25 LIVE STREAM TICKET

4851 MICHIGAN AVE. DETROIT

**DANCE PARTY
SILENT AUCTION
MOVEMENT CLASSES
25 HOUR HYBRID EVENT
FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE**

MORE INFO AT LIVINGARTSDetroit.org

La Joya Gardens Community Space and Café Clark Crowdfunding Reaches Goal to Raise Total of \$90,000

The Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA) recently announced that the crowdfunding campaign for the La Joya Gardens Community Space and Café Clark has successfully reached its \$45,000 goal, unlocking a matching grant through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s (MEDC) Public Spaces Community Places initiative.

The campaign received a significant boost in its final week, with approximately \$30,000 raised thanks to the dedicated outreach efforts of the SDBA Board of Directors and the generosity of community supporters.

A total of \$90,000 will ensure that a cooperative kitchen, café space, and community hub within the La Joya Gardens mixed-use development, will become a reality. The funding will support the buildout of this

vital project that is designed to welcome and serve Southwest Detroit residents.

Construction of the café and community space is slated to begin this spring following the completion of architectural plans and securing city approvals. Work will then progress to plumbing and electrical upgrades, followed by the installation of sinks, cabinets, countertops, and equipment. The space is expected to open to the public by this fall.

Led by the SDBA in partnership with MEDC, the campaign was supported by the Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan-based crowdfunding platform Patronicity.

The success of the campaign was a true team effort, with both the SDBA board and staff playing pivotal roles. In the final stretch, the board

rallied together to help secure the remaining funds needed to unlock the matching grant, conducting extensive outreach to constituents, funders and community partners. Their efforts not only brought the campaign across the finish line but also underscored the organization’s commitment to its mission for a healthy, vibrant community.

“The collaboration between our board and staff made all of the difference,” said Tonia Patino, SDBA Board Chair. “Everyone came together with purpose and energy to help us reach our goal. This project reflects the heart of Southwest Detroit, which is community-driven, deeply rooted, and forward-looking. We’re proud to be part of something that will connect our neighbors for years to come.”

Café Clark, owned by lifelong Southwest Detroit residents Melisa Hernandez and Eduardo

Salas, will serve as a welcoming neighborhood café featuring coffee, breakfast and lunch options. The space will be designed to spark collaboration, support entrepreneurs, and reflect the culture and flavor of the neighborhood.

“We’re grateful for the support from the SDBA board and staff who helped drive this campaign forward,” said Hernandez. “Their commitment helped us take a huge step toward making our vision a reality. We’re excited to open our doors and welcome the community.”

La Joya Gardens, where Café Clark will be located, is part of a broader effort to develop mixed-use spaces that enhance community vibrancy. This project aligns MEDC’s Public Spaces Community Places program, which has supported hundreds of similar initiatives across Michigan since its

inception in 2014. The success of this campaign highlights the power of collaboration between local organizations like SDBA, state programs like MEDC’s Public Spaces Community Places initiative, and grassroots community support. To date, MEDC has provided more than \$13.6 million in matching grants for 397 projects statewide.

“This campaign is a testament to what’s possible when the community comes together with a shared purpose,” said SDBA Vice President of Programs; Compliance Brandi Watts. “The SDBA has always championed projects that uplift and empower Southwest Detroit, and this is another example of our deep commitment to the people and places we serve.” About the Southwest Detroit Business Association.

The Southwest Detroit Business Association will move forward on a new community hub for connection, creativity and culture with \$90,000 in combined support



Rendering of the community space at La Joya Gardens



The Clark Cafe and community space will be located in the center of the ground floor of La Joya Gardens behind the vertical blue and green slats facing the street

S DON'T
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LOOKING
PEOPLE
IN THE EYE

Josh Sander
Illustration

Lack of eye contact is a sign of autism.
Learn the others at autismspeaks.org/learn

AUTISM SPEAKS

FOOD TRUCK OWNERS AND CULINARY ENTREPRENEURS,

We are thrilled to announce that applications are now open for the 2025 season of Downtown Street Eats, Michigan's largest weekly food truck experience! This is your opportunity to showcase your culinary creations to a diverse and enthusiastic audience in the heart of Detroit.

Season Dates: April 7- October 11, 2025
Location: Cadillac Square, Downtown Detroit
Operating Hours: Monday-Friday, 11 AM - 3 PM

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Excepto cuando se aplique la tasa promocional, la Tasa Anual Equivalente (TAE) al abrir su cuenta se basa en su solvencia crediticia y es variable, basada en un margen más un índice. La TAE variable se basa en la Tasa Prime más alta publicada en la sección de Tasa de Interés de Dinero del Wall Street Journal, vigente en el día de cada cotización de cada mes ("Índice"), más nuestro margen. El índice más el margen es igual a la TAE. Los cambios en el índice causarán cambios en la TAE en el siguiente día de facturación completo que siga inmediatamente después de un cambio en el índice. Excepto cuando se aplique la tasa promocional, la TAE actual es tan baja como 12.75% para la tarjeta sin recompensas y tan baja como 14.25% para la tarjeta con recompensas a partir del 1/1/2025, y la TAE máxima que puede aplicarse es de 23.25%. La fecha de vencimiento de su pago es el mes 25 días después del cierre de cada ciclo de facturación. No le cobramos intereses sobre su pago si paga su saldo PAGO antes de la Fecha de Vencimiento del Pago. No hay cargo mínimo por intereses. El límite máximo de crédito de MasterCard es de \$500. Cargo por transacciones estacionales igual al 3% de cada transacción en ciertos eventos estacionales. Cargo por pago tardío y pago devuelto de hasta \$100. Para obtener más información sobre las facturas y condiciones al solicitar o utilizar una tarjeta de crédito, visite el sitio web de la Oficina de Protección Financiera del Consumidor en <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore>.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger reflexionó sobre el camino recorrido por la Iglesia durante los 12 años de pontificado del papa Francisco y sobre su último mensaje de Pascua

Por Daniel Meloy | Reimpreso de *Detroit Catholic* | Fotos de Valaurian Waller | Detroit Catholic

con't de pg. 1

“Permítanme expresar mi más sincero pésame a cada uno de ustedes —a todos nosotros— y a los fieles del mundo entero que hoy lloran la pérdida de nuestro querido Papa Francisco”.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger invitó a los reunidos —entre ellos el Arzobispo emérito Allen H. Vigneron, obispos auxiliares, sacerdotes y diáconos— a “rezar por él, pedir al Señor que lo abrace y lo sostenga por toda la eternidad con inmenso gozo”.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger reflexionó sobre una de las frases favoritas del papa Francisco: “Un poco de misericordia hace que el mundo sea menos frío y más justo”, para resaltar cómo, desde el momento en que se asomó por el balcón frente a la Plaza de San Pedro el 13 de marzo de 2013, comenzó un pontificado basado en la humildad.

“Mientras se asomaba a ese balcón y miraba a la multitud que se encontraba en la plaza, sus palabras y sus gestos transmitieron algo paradójico”, dijo el Arzobispo Weisenburger. “Por un lado, la gran tradición viva de la Iglesia con T mayúscula, y



El Arzobispo Weisenburger eleva la Eucaristía durante una Misa celebrada en memoria del papa Francisco el 21 de abril en la Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament en Detroit.

“Ese fue el comienzo, y a partir de esta mañana, ese caminar con nosotros ha llegado a su fin, aunque su viaje continúa”, dijo el Arzobispo Weisenburger. “Después de recordar sus primeras palabras al mundo como Papa, recordemos también sus últimas palabras

año de vida del Papa— antes de la procesión de entrada. Antes de la Misa, el Obispo Auxiliar de Detroit, Robert J. Fisher, dirigió el rezo de los Misterios Gloriosos del Rosario por el eterno descanso del alma del papa Francisco.

Sue DiCosmo, de la SS. Peter and Paul (Jesuit) Parish en Detroit, se acercó a la catedral para rezar por el papa Francisco y para que la Iglesia continúe el camino que él marcó durante sus 12 años de pontificado. “Ha sido una bendición tener a un jesuita como Papa, alguien que entiende quiénes somos y cree lo mismo que

dijo DiCosmo. “Intenta hacer algo por el medio ambiente todos los días; cada vez que levantes algo del suelo, piensa en el papa Francisco”.

Kiera Raymond, estudiante de la Universidad de Oakland y feligresa de la St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish en Rochester Hills, contó que se despertó temprano con la noticia del fallecimiento del papa Francisco.

“Me senté en la cama completamente en shock”, contó Raymond a Detroit Catholic. “Hace unos días hablaba con unas personas sobre cómo estaba mejorando, y de repente me enteró de que falleció. Hoy leí su testamento, y eso me hizo ver con otros ojos la sencillez de todo su pontificado, cómo vivió sus votos religiosos y cómo eso se reflejó en su forma de ser Papa”.

Raymond tuvo el privilegio de participar en la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Portugal en 2023 y de escuchar y ver al papa Francisco celebrar con jóvenes de todo el mundo.

“Estar allí con el Papa y presenciar su ministerio fue algo muy especial. De verdad espero que la gente recuerde el amor del papa Francisco por los pobres, y cómo vivió auténticamente el llamado a servir a los más necesitados”, dijo Raymond.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger también reflexionó sobre la última homilía del papa Francisco, preparada para el Domingo de Pascua y leída por el capellán pontificio, en la que el Papa pidió el cese de las hostilidades en el mundo y el respeto a la dignidad de los marginados y vulnerables en todos los ámbitos de la vida.

En ella, el papa Francisco predicó al mundo, en su último acto como pontífice, sobre la necesidad de confiar en la resurrección y en la victoria de Cristo sobre la muerte.

“En esa conmovedora homilía, pidió a los gobernantes que no cedieran al miedo, que solo conduce al aislamiento, sino que usaran su poder para llevarnos a la fraternidad universal”, dijo el Arzobispo Weisenburger. “Finalmente, en ese hermoso mensaje, expresó nuestra fe en la resurrección pascual: un llamado claro a creer que el Señor vive para siempre, y que cada uno de nosotros está llamado a participar de esa vida que no tiene fin. Estos, hermanos y hermanas, marcan el inicio y el final de su tiempo como guía de la Iglesia universal, y los temas que podemos extraer de su pontificado fueron llamados constantes a la paz, a la fraternidad universal, a la dignidad de toda vida humana y al gran amor de Dios por todos”.

“Y hermanos y hermanas, creo sinceramente que fuimos inmensamente bendecidos por el Espíritu Santo a través de él durante ese caminar con nosotros”, concluyó el Arzobispo Weisenburger. “Que pueda gozar plenamente de esa vida que no tiene fin”.



Los fieles rezan durante una Misa en memoria del Papa Francisco que se llevó a cabo el 21 de abril en la Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament en Detroit. El papa Francisco falleció esa misma mañana a la edad de 88 años.

al mismo tiempo, algo nuevo y lleno de vida. Comenzó pidiendo a los reunidos —y a través de ellos, al mundo entero— que rezaran en primer lugar por el papa emérito Benedicto XVI. Me pareció un gesto muy humilde de su parte”.

El Arzobispo Weisenburger dijo que a continuación el Papa pidió humildemente a los fieles bautizados que rezaran por él. Y antes de impartir su primera bendición como pontífice a la Iglesia universal, pronunció una frase que marcaría su pontificado: ‘Comencemos este viaje juntos’.

—como una especie de paréntesis que se cierra—, la homilía que no pudo pronunciar personalmente, pero que escribió para la Pascua. En ella expresó su solidaridad con los pueblos que sufren en Gaza, para quienes volvió a pedir el cese del fuego, y en Yemen, Siria, Ucrania, Líbano, Myanmar, Sudán y tantos otros países. En esa homilía, nos recordó que cada vida es preciosa”.

El ambiente en la catedral era solemne. Un estandarte negro colgaba sobre las puertas principales del templo, y las campanas repicaron 88 veces —una por cada

nosotros; esta es una pérdida enorme”, dijo DiCosmo a Detroit Catholic. “La enseñanza que más me gusta del papa Francisco es que todos somos hijos de Cristo, y que esta es la Iglesia de todos; no importa quién seas ni cómo vivas tu vida, esta es la Iglesia de todos”.

DiCosmo dijo que se sintió particularmente inspirada por la encíclica Laudato Si’ de 2015, en la que el papa Francisco hizo un llamado al cuidado y la protección del medio ambiente como “nuestra casa común”.

“Es un mensaje que predicó a todos los países del mundo”,



Una vela votiva arde en memoria del papa Francisco durante una Misa celebrada el 21 de abril en la Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Archbishop Weisenburger reflects on the journey on which Pope Francis led the Church in his 12-year pontificate, final message on Easter

By Daniel Meloy | Reprinted from *Detroit Catholic* | Photos by Valaurian Waller

continued from pg. 1

the assembly. “Allow me to express my sincere sympathy to each of you — to each of us — and to the faithful around the world today who are mourning the loss of our beloved Pope Francis.”

Archbishop Weisenburger greeted those gathered, including Archbishop-emeritus Allen H. Vigneron, auxiliary bishops, priests and deacons, to “pray for him, to ask the Lord to embrace him, and to hold him for all eternity in great joy.”

Archbishop Weisenburger reflected upon a favorite quote from Pope Francis, “A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just,” observing how from the moment Pope Francis appeared on the balcony overlooking St. Peter’s Square on March 13, 2013, he began a pontificate rooted in humility.

“As he stood on that balcony and faced that heaving mass of humanity in the piazza below, his words and his actions spoke of something paradoxically,” Archbishop Weisenburger said. “Something on one hand of the Church’s great and living tradition with a capital ‘T,’ and at the same time, something spirit-filled and new. He began by asking those gathered, and through them all the world, first to pray for Pope Benedict, the pope emeritus. I thought it was wonderfully humble of him, a gracious gesture.”

Archbishop Weisenburger said the pope next graciously asked the baptized faithful to pray for him, and before blessing the universal Church for the first time as pope, he gave a tagline that would define his papacy: “Let us begin this journey together.”

“That was the beginning, and of this morning, that journeying with us has come to a close, even as his journey continues,” Archbishop Weisenburger said. “Having recalled his opening words to the world as pope, let us also call to mind his final words, sort of bookends, the homily



Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Fisher leads a rosary before Mass on April 21 at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament for the repose of Pope Francis’ soul.

he wasn’t able to deliver personally, but the homily for Easter that he wrote. In that, he spoke of his solidarity with suffering populations in Gaza, for whom he again begged for a ceasefire, and in Yemen, Syria, Ukraine, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan and so many others. He reminded us in that homily yesterday that every life in precious.”

The atmosphere in the cathedral was subdued, with a black banner hanging over the front doors of the cathedral, and the church’s bells ringing 88 times — one for each year

of the pope’s life — before the opening procession.

Before the Mass, Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Robert J. Fisher led the assembly in praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary for the repose of Pope Francis’ soul.

Sue DiCosmo of SS. Peter and Paul (Jesuit) Parish in Detroit made her way to the cathedral both to pray for Pope Francis and for the Church to continue on the journey he led during his 12-year pontificate.

“It’s been a blessing to have a Jesuit as our pope, someone

who understands who we are and believes in the same things we do; this is a huge loss,” DiCosmo told *Detroit Catholic*. “My favorite lesson from Pope Francis is that everyone is a child of Christ, and it’s everyone’s Church; it doesn’t matter who you are.”

DiCosmo said she was particularly inspired by Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si’*, which called for the care and stewardship of the environment as “our common home.”

“It’s a message he preached to all the countries around the world,” DiCosmo said. “Try to do something eco-friendly each day; every time you pick something up, think of Pope Francis.”

Kiera Raymond, an Oakland University student and a parishioner at St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish in Rochester Hills, said she awoke early to the news of Pope Francis’ passing.

“I sat up in my bed, absolutely shocked,” Raymond told *Detroit Catholic*. “I was talking to some people the other day about how he was doing so much better, only to find out that he passed. I read through his last will and testament today, and it gave me a whole new perspective on the simplicity of his entire pontificate, on how he lived his vows as a religious and how it transferred to his pontificate.”

Raymond had the privilege to attend World Youth Day in Portugal in 2023 and to hear and witness Pope Francis’ words as he celebrated with young people from around the world.

“Just being there with the pope and seeing his ministry, I really hope people remember Pope Francis’ love for the poor and how he truly lived the call to serve those who

are the poorest among us,” Raymond said.

Archbishop Weisenburger reflected on Pope Francis’ final homily, prepared for Easter Sunday to be read aloud by the papal chaplain, in which the pope called for cessation of hostilities around the world and for respect for the dignity of the marginalized and vulnerable in all walks of life.

In it, Pope Francis preached to the world in his final act as pope the necessity of placing one’s trust in the resurrection, and in Christ’s victory over death.

“In that moving homily, he urged those in political power not to yield to the logic of fear, which only leads to isolation, but instead to use their power to bring us into universal brotherhood,” Archbishop Weisenburger said. “Finally, in that wonderful address, he ended his words by expressing our Easter resurrection faith — a clarion call that the Lord lives forever, and that each of us is called to share in that life that knows no ends. These, brothers and sisters, are bookends of his time as shepherd of the universal Church, and the themes we can tease out of it were constant calls to peace, universal brotherhood, the dignity of all human life, and God’s great love of everyone.

“And brothers and sisters, I believe we were prodigiously blessed by the Holy Spirit working through him throughout that journey through us,” Archbishop Weisenburger concluded. “May he indeed share in that life that knows no end.”



Archbishop Weisenburger gives a homily April 21 during a memorial Mass celebrated for Pope Francis at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament. While the archbishop expressed his condolences, he also expressed joy for the Holy Father, whose earthly pilgrimage to the Lord is now complete.



Mourners pray during a Mass of suffrage for the repose of Pope Francis’ soul at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Archbishop Weisenburger also celebrated an additional memorial Mass this week for the late pope on April 23 at Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Detroit, and will celebrate another memorial Mass on April 25 at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth.



A stole hangs from a portrait of Pope Francis in the sanctuary of the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament. For nine days, the Church will mourn Pope Francis’ passing before the College of Cardinals gathers to begin the process of electing a new pope.

Tigers In First Place !!!

EL CENTRAL

HISPANIC NEWS

SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Grashuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Mike Alberts/ EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

This past weekend, the Detroit Tigers hosted the Kansas City Royals at Comerica Park. The Tigers defeated the Royals 3 out of the 4 four games. As of Monday, April 21st, the Detroit Tigers find themselves in first place in the American League Central division with a record of 14 - 9, and continue their winning ways from the end of last season. The Tigers host the Baltimore Orioles this weekend, before going on the road to take on the Houston Astros, on Monday, April 28th before returning back to Comerica Park on Friday, May 9th to host the Texas Rangers.

Photos below are highlights from the Detroit Tigers vs. Kansas City Royals series at Comerica Park



Carpenter rounds third base to score in the opener against the Kansas City Royals



Riley Green broke a drought with a hit in the opener of the series against the Kansas City Royals



Torres gets on base with a hit in the opener of the series against the Kansas City Royals



McKinstry Tagged home ahead of the throw in the opener against the Kansas City Royals

Local Boxing, and NFL Draft 2025 in Green Bay

(NFL DRAFT ad provided by NFL) After breaking records during the 2024 NFL Draft in Detroit. The 2025 NFL Draft starts today, Thrusday, April 24th, in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

This past Friday, at the HYPE Athletics in Dearborn Heights, MI, Darkside promotions held the Takeover boxing event. The event held 9 bouts. During the main event Husam Almashhadi (from Darkside Gym, 12-1-0, 10 KOs) defeated Chris Howardi (18-5-1) by unanimous decision. Photo below of Almashhadi vs. Howardi by Bob Ryder (fightnews.com)



Husam Almashhadi (white shorts) defeated Chris Howardi (black shorts) by unanimous decision during the Takeover event promoted by Darkside promotions

ONE WEEK

NFL DRAFT 2025

APRIL 24-26 ESPN • ABC • NFLN

Perfect Week For DCFC



Detroit City rounded out a perfect week with three wins from three games against a former friend when Maxi Rodriguez rolled into Keyworth Stadium with his new club, Rhode Island FC. Rumors of an acrimonious split between the club and its former star ensured Rodriguez would receive a hostile reception. The East Stand, led by the Northern Guard, vented their emotions at what they saw as a betrayal of loyalty.

How much the chants and songs affected the visitors would be apparent from the start. Barely six minutes into the game, Rhode Island's Frank Nodarse lashed out at Michael Bryant during a free kick. Referee Joshua Encarnacion clearly saw what happened and produced a red card. DCFC played the remaining eighty-six minutes against ten men.

Having been gifted a lengthy man advantage,



DCFC wasted little time sealing the points. South African striker Darrin Smith scored two goals in a three minute span to provide the margin of victory. The first goal came following a turnover by Rodriguez that led to a corner. Smith reacted first to a header by Devon Amoo-Mensah to give the hosts the lead. Within minutes, Connor Rutz played Smith in with a delightful through ball and the team's leading scorer (6 goals) lobbed the goalkeeper to double the lead.

Unfortunately, the scoring stopped. DCFC controlled the bulk of the game with the extra man, but eased up the pressure on Rhode Island. While the visitors created little of note, DCFC Coach Danny Dichio would have wanted to add another goal or two.

While the goals stopped, the supporters sections of the East Stand did not. The barrage of chants clearly had an effect on Maxi Rodriguez. No longer the hero who scored two goals against

Columbus in a memorable US Open Cup win, he now became the villain. Rhode Island coach Khano Smith mercifully took him out at halftime. Rodriguez cut a forlorn figure on the end of the Rhode Island bench as the taunts continued from across the field.

The three wins in seven days solidified DCFC's position in the top half of the Eastern Conference table. It looks like 2025 will be even more competitive than last year. Loudon, Louisville City, DCFC, and Charleston are off to hot starts. They have created a gap between them and the rest of the East. Loudon may be the biggest surprise with only one defeat in seven games. After four straight wins, they have jumped over DCFC, Louisville and Charleston to take an early lead.

The USL Championship and USL League One will take a break from their regular season campaigns this weekend to play the first set of group matches in the Jagermeister League Cup. The tournament has divided the thirty-eight

combined teams into four groups of six and two groups of seven teams. Each team will play two home and two away games against teams in their group. The USL attempted to balance the groups while minimizing travel by keeping most teams in their region of the country. DCFC opens group play on Saturday afternoon at Keyworth against the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, a USL Championship rival. Eight teams will advance to the quarterfinals. Eventually, the final will be on October 4.

The Jagermeister Cup is not the only cup competition holding DCFC's interest. After defeating Westchester SC 3-1 last week, Le Rouge has been drawn away to the Chicago Fire of MLS in the next round of the Lamar Hunt US Open Cup. That game will take place on Wednesday May 7 at Bridgeview Stadium on the far south side of the Windy City.

Given the USL has opened up weekend dates for the Jagermeister Cup games, the clubs should be

able to field full strength teams. Danny Dichio will have to measure his approach, because most of what he has tried this year and worked out. Apart from the dismal showing in Louisville, the team has played well. Darrin Smith is the hot striker and will certainly lead the line. The back three just about picks itself, with Shane Wiedt as a dependable reserve to cover any position. There has been some juggling of midfield, but Ryan Williams and Jeciel Cedenro have been Dichio's most consistent picks. Smith has had a variety of partners up top, including Ben Morris, Connor Rutz, and Jordan Adebayo-Smith. There is depth to cover absences all over the field and returning midfielder Abdoulaye Diop has yet to feature in the gameday squad. Saturday's game against Pittsburgh will be the latest rendition of a growing rivalry that includes a DCFC playoff win two years ago (4:00pm WKBD TV-50).

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

The conscience of the world

By Robert Reich



Like many of you, I was moved by Pope Francis’s moral authority. At a time when moral leadership has been in short supply in the world — when authoritarians and neofascists are pushing us into darkness — Pope Francis pointed toward the light. He urged the world to protect and defend migrants. In what turned out to be his final public remarks, he wrote in a papal address delivered Easter Sunday at the Vatican “How much contempt is stirred up at times towards the vulnerable, the marginalized, and migrants! On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas!” In February, Francis decried Trump’s deportations of people fleeing hardship as a violation of the “dignity of

many men and women, and of entire families.” In an open letter to American bishops, Francis wrote that he had “followed closely the major crisis that is taking place in the United States with the initiation of a program of mass deportations,” adding that any policy built on force “begins badly and will end badly.” During the first Trump administration, Francis criticized the separation of migrant families. He also focused on Gaza. As recently as in Francis’s Easter Sunday remarks, he condemned violent conflict and called for a cease-fire and release of hostages in Gaza. “The light of Easter impels us to break down the barriers that create division and are fraught with grave political and economic consequences,” he wrote. “It impels us to care for one another, to increase our mutual solidarity, and to work for the integral development of each human person. Call a cease-fire.” And he pushed for action on the climate. Pope Francis helped spur nearly 200 nations to adopt



the landmark 2015 Paris agreement to fight climate change. That year, Francis issued the first of two papal encyclicals exhorting world leaders to take action to slow down atmospheric pollution. His 2023 encyclical called out global leaders for not acting quickly enough to address rising temperatures and protect nature. In it, he

said “the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point. In addition to this possibility, it is indubitable that the impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons.” Migrants, Gaza, the climate. He was much more than these three issues, of course, but

his moral authority demanded caring attention to them, at a time when so-called leaders — such as the person who now inhabits the White House — would rather deploy brutality. Pope Francis, Rest In Peace.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor
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Opinión de un Invitado:

La conciencia del mundo

Por Robert Reich

Como muchos de ustedes, me conmovió la autoridad moral del Papa Francisco. En un momento en que el liderazgo moral ha escaseado en el mundo —cuando autoritarios y neofascistas nos empujan hacia la oscuridad—, el Papa Francisco señaló hacia la luz. Instó al mundo a proteger y defender a los migrantes. En lo que resultaron ser sus últimas declaraciones públicas, escribió en un discurso papal pronunciado el Domingo de Pascua en el Vaticano: “¡Cuánto desprecio se despierta a veces hacia los vulnerables, los marginados y los migrantes! En este día, quisiera que todos reanudemos la esperanza y revivamos nuestra confianza en los demás, incluidos aquellos que son diferentes

a nosotros o que vienen de tierras lejanas, trayendo costumbres, formas de vida e ideas desconocidas”. En febrero, Francisco condenó las deportaciones de personas que huían de las dificultades por parte de Trump como una violación de la “dignidad de muchos hombres y mujeres, y de familias enteras”. En una carta abierta a los obispos estadounidenses, Francisco escribió que había “seguido de cerca la grave crisis que se está produciendo en Estados Unidos con el inicio de un programa de deportaciones masivas”, y añadió que cualquier política basada en la fuerza “empieza mal y terminará mal”. Durante el primer gobierno de Trump, Francisco criticó la separación de familias

migrantes. También se centró en Gaza. Tan recientemente como en su discurso del Domingo de Pascua, Francisco condenó el conflicto violento y pidió un alto el fuego y la liberación de los rehenes en Gaza. “La luz de la Pascua nos impulsa a derribar las barreras que crean división y están cargadas de graves consecuencias políticas y económicas”, escribió. “Nos impulsa a cuidarnos unos a otros, a aumentar nuestra solidaridad mutua y a trabajar por el desarrollo integral de cada persona. Pidamos un alto el fuego”. E impulsó la acción climática. El papa Francisco impulsó a casi 200 naciones a adoptar el histórico Acuerdo de París de 2015 para combatir el cambio climático. Ese año, Francisco

emitió la primera de dos encíclicas papales exhortando a los líderes mundiales a tomar medidas para frenar la contaminación atmosférica. Su encíclica de 2023 criticó a los líderes mundiales por no actuar con la suficiente rapidez para abordar el aumento de las temperaturas y proteger la naturaleza. En ella, afirmó: «El mundo en el que vivimos se está derrumbando y podría estar a punto de romperse. Además de esta posibilidad, es indudable que el impacto del cambio

climático perjudicará cada vez más la vida y las familias de muchas personas». Migrantes, Gaza, el clima. Era mucho más que estos tres temas, por supuesto, pero su autoridad moral exigía una atención cuidadosa a ellos, en un momento en que los supuestos líderes —como quien ahora ocupa la Casa Blanca— preferían la brutalidad. Papa Francisco, Que En Paz Descanse.

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Vatican City

Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore



Every year on August 5th, the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major, also known as Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore in Italian, dresses up to commemorate the Miracle of the Snow. Hence, it is also known as Basilica di Santa Maria della Neve. It is located atop the Esquiline Hill in Rome, Italy.

It was founded in the mid-4th century at the request of the Virgin Mary herself, who appeared in a dream to the patrician John and Pope Liberius, asking them to build her house in a place where she would perform a miracle. Thus, on the morning of August 5th, 358, snow fell on the top of the Esquiline Hill, the highest hill in Rome, where they found snow, instructing Pope Liberius to build the Basilica.

It is traditional that during the celebrations commemorating the miracle of the snow in the basilica, a cascade of white petals is allowed to descend during the liturgy, resembling the miracle of sixteen centuries ago.

The relic of the Holy Cradle, the manger in which the baby Jesus was laid, is housed in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. For this reason, the Basilica can be considered the “Bethlehem of the West,” the original representation of where Jesus Christ, son of the Virgin Mary, was born. It is here that Christmas Eve Mass was first celebrated. However, this is not the only relic found here; the remains of Saint Matthias and Saint Jerome were also placed there.

The Basilica of Saint Mary Major is also known as the cradle of artistic civilization because it is here that the most important Marian icon is housed, the Salus Populi Romani, the painting that portrays the Virgin Mary with Jesus as an infant. Tradition attributes the image to Saint Luke, evangelist and patron saint of painters.

Seven Popes are buried in the Basilica, including Pope Francis, who died last Monday, April 21st of this year, at 7:35 a.m. in the Vatican. Pope Francis was born in Argentina in 1937, the first Latin American Pope.



Vatican City



Vatican City is the smallest country in the world and one of the most influential because it is the center of the Roman Catholic Church, which is why it is known as the Holy See.

Vatican City is located in Rome, Italy, and was founded on February 11, 1929.



The Apostolic Palace, the official residence of the Pope, the spiritual leader of the Roman Catholic Church, is located here. It is in this same palace that the Sistine Chapel is located, known for its murals by the artist Michelangelo.



The foundation stone of St. Peter's Basilica, one of the most important pilgrimage sites and one of the largest buildings in the world, was laid in 1506. However, it wasn't until 1512 that Michelangelo's paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel were completed and displayed to the public for the first time. St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world, was built in 1626.

And in 1929, the Lateran Treaty was signed between Pope Pius XI and Italian leader Benito Mussolini, declaring Vatican City an independent state, making it the smallest country in the world.



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ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,

by Mariana Ayón RV

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Ciudad del Vaticano

Basílica de Santa María La Mayor



Año con año el 5 de agosto la Basílica Papal de Santa María La Mayor, en italiano *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*, se viste de gala para conmemorar el Milagro de la Nieve, de aquí que se la conozca también como Basílica di Santa Maria della Neve. Se encuentra ubicada en la cima del monte Esquilino, en Roma, Italia.

Fue fundada a mediados del siglo IV, a petición de la mismísima virgen quien en sueños se la apareció al patricio Juan y al Papa Liberio pidiéndoles que le construyeran su casa en un lugar en el mostraría un milagro, así en la mañana del 5 de agosto del año 358 cayó nieve sobre la cima del monte Esquilino, el más alto de las colinas de Roma, donde encontraron la nieve, llevando por instrucción la construcción de la Basílica a cargo del Papa Liberio. Es tradición que durante la liturgia del 5 de agosto se deje descender una cascada de pétalos blancos semejando el milagro de hace dieciséis siglos.

Es en la Basílica de Santa María La Mayor donde se encuentra la reliquia de la Sagrada Cuna, es decir, el pesebre en el que fue depositado el niño Jesús, por esta razón a la Basílica se la puede considerar como la “Belén de Occidente”. Es aquí donde se celebró por primera ocasión la misa de Nochebuena. Mas, no es esta la única reliquia que se encuentra aquí, pues también fueron colocados los restos de San Matías y San Jerónimo.

A la Basílica de Santa María La Mayor se la conoce también como la cuna de la civilización artística, debido a que es aquí donde se alberga el icono mariano más importante, la *Salus Populi Romani*, la pintura en que se retrata a la Virgen con Jesús siendo apenas un infante. La tradición atribuye la imagen a San Lucas, evangelista y patrón de los pintores.

En la Basílica están enterrados siete Papas a los que se les suma el Papa Francisco.

Ciudad del Vaticano



La Ciudad del Vaticano, es el país más pequeño del mundo y uno de los más influyentes debido a que es aquí donde se encuentra el Centro de la Iglesia Católica Romana, por ello es conocido como la Santa Sede es donde.



La Ciudad del Vaticano se encuentra en Roma Italia y fue fundada el 11 de febrero de 1929.

Es aquí mismo se ubica el Palacio Apostólico, residencia oficial del Papa, líder espiritual de la Iglesia Romana Católica, es en este mismo palacio donde se encuentra a Capilla Sixtina, conocida por sus murales realizados por el artista Miguel Ángel, Michelangelo.



Fue en 1506 cuando se colocó la piedra fundacional de la Basílica de San Pedro, uno de los lugares de peregrinación más importantes y uno de los edificios más grandes del mundo. No obstante, no fue sino hasta 1512 cuando se completaron las pinturas de Miguel Ángel en el techo de la Capilla Sixtina y se exponen al público por primera vez.

En 1626 se construyó la Basílica de San Pedro, la cual es la mayor iglesia del mundo.

Y en 1929 se firmó el Tratado de Letrán entre el Papa Pío XI y el líder italiano Benito Mussolini, por el que se declara a la Ciudad del Vaticano como un Estado independiente que se convierte en el país más pequeño del mundo.



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